STATE of WISCONSIN



WHEREAS; as the hearts of cities, towns, schools, campuses, and communities throughout Wisconsin, libraries are accessible and inclusive places that foster a sense of belonging and community, and have long served as trusted and treasured institutions for all people; and

WHEREAS; libraries strive to develop and maintain programs and collections that are as diverse as the populations they serve, and are committed to ensuring equity of access for all, offering opportunities for everyone to explore new worlds and become their best selves through access to technology, multimedia content, and educational resources; and

WHEREAS; we recognize that access to high-speed internet is not a luxury, but a necessity, and for people without internet access at home, libraries provide critical access to computers and Wi-Fi, and may even offer internet hotspots and laptops that can be checked out; and

WHEREAS; libraries, librarians, and all library workers play an invaluable role in supporting communities across our state—both in-person and virtually—and throughout the coronavirus pandemic, in particular, our state's libraries have gone above and beyond to meet the evolving needs of their patrons; and

WHEREAS; our state recognizes the importance of protecting and investing in our public libraries to promote the free exchange of information and ideas and, ultimately, to strengthen our democracy; and

WHEREAS; the theme of this year's National Library Week, "Connect with Your Library," promotes the role of libraries as places to get connected with technology, enrichment opportunities, and other members of the community; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins libraries, librarians, and library workers, supporters, and advocates in encouraging all Wisconsinites to sign up for a library card, visit their local library, and support local libraries across our state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim April 3 – 9, 2022, as

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 11th day of March 2022.

TONY EVERS

By the Governor:

Douglas La Follette

Secretary of State